

REMARKS

The Office action of March 13, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully noted.

Claims 6-10 are pending in the application. Claims 6, and 8-9 have been amended. Claims 33-35 have been added without the addition of any new matter.

Claims 6-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eakins et al. ("Eakins") (Retrieval of trade mark images by shape feature - the ARTISAN project, Intelligent Image Databases, IEEE Colloquium, pages 1-6, May 22, 1996). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, and request allowance thereof in the continuation prosecution application for the following reasons.

The Claims are Patentable Over the Cited References

Claims 6-10 are not made obvious by Eakins

Claims 6-10 stand rejected under § 103(a) in view of Eakins. Applicant strongly contends that Eakins, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose the features recited in these claims as amended such as deriving a view descriptor of the first outline of a three-dimensional object, and deriving at least one additional

view descriptor of the outline of the object in a different view.

Eakins does not disclose this patentably distinct feature of deriving a view descriptor of the first outline of a three-dimensional object, and deriving an additional view descriptor for a different view. As disclosed throughout the cited reference, Eakins only describes developing image descriptions of two-dimensional trademark images (see Figs. 1-4; page 2, lines 3-22). Therefore, instead of the recited feature of deriving a view descriptor of an outline of a three-dimensional object, Eakins in direct contrast solely develops an image description of exclusively two-dimensional trademark images.

Furthermore, a two-dimensional image only has one view, unlike a three-dimensional object which will include several different views (e.g., top, front, back, etc.), and therefore Eakins cannot derive an additional view descriptor for a different view as recited since the two-dimensional trademark images disclosed only have one view. Eakins creates different "special" views based on the two-dimensional shapes (e.g., circles, triangles, etc.) found in the trademark image, but these are not different views (e.g., top, bottom, etc.) of a three-dimensional object as recited. Also, Eakins only discloses using two-dimensional global shape features (see page 4, lines 9-28) of the trademark image to develop an image description which provides further support that Eakins only

develops image descriptions for two-dimensional images which is in direct contrast to the recited feature of deriving a view descriptor of the first outline of a three-dimensional object.

Furthermore, regarding claim 10, Eakins makes no mention of the recited feature of deriving a curvature scale space representation for the object outline. As supported by the specification, the claimed feature includes processing steps of smoothing and graphing of zero crossings which are completely omitted from Eakins. Therefore, it is clear that Eakins does not disclose the recited features making the claimed invention patentably distinct and non-obvious from the cited references.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the remaining claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Clint Gerdine (Reg. No. 41,035) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH, & BIRCH, LLP

by Clint Gerdine
Michael K. Mutter, Reg.#29,680

MKM/CAG:tm
0054-0205P

Attachments

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
Phone: (703) 205-8000